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# Greater Schenectady



BRANDYWINE POND

**R**ICH in historical interest for almost three centuries and founded upon a solid basis, Schenectady to-day looks upon a horizon of the clearest and brightest kind. While the past history of the city is interesting, (and it is the days gone by that the student of history loves to dwell upon) it is the future that commercialism wants to look to. Not a city in the country has a brighter outlook than Schenectady. From the sleepy town of Indian legends it has since developed into the bustling place which is the *armature* of the World. It was only a few years ago that grass grew in the main business streets of the city and it occupied the distinction of being the only "finished town in America." Then came the change. The company which is now known as the General Electric Company—but which at that time was called the Edison Machine Company—came to Schenectady to occupy two moderate sized buildings and at that time it was fondly hoped that in time the concern would employ 1,500 persons. Today the company has on its pay roll over ten thousand people and every Friday night the employees take out of the works nearly \$150,000. This great amount is put in circulation and therein lies the story of Schenectady's prosperity.

The General Electric Company, however, is not Schenectady's only great industry as within the city's limits are located the main shops of the American Locomotive Company, which at the present time is employing about five thousand men and is carrying a weekly pay roll of about \$65,000. With two such stable industries there is no question about the future of the city which once had the reputation of having closed gates to all comers.

Educationally, Schenectady has every advantage. It is the seat of Union College, one of the oldest and best known institutions in the country; and has one of the best systems of free schools in the State. There have lately been completed a magnificent new high school and two new ward schools.

The protection from fire has kept pace with the growth of the city and it is generally acknowledged that Schenectady has one of the best departments in the country. It is made up of paid and volunteer members and is supplied with all modern apparatus.

The water supply of the city is obtained from driven wells located a short distance from the city and the water pumped into the mains is generally regarded as the best east of the Rocky Mountains.

A most admirable police force which is divided into four precincts guards against the committing of crimes. There are in the city some 50 churches representing nearly all denominations.

The past of the city has been nearly as interesting as the future promises to be. It was first settled in 1642 and was for many years nothing but a trading settlement. It was the destination of a party of French and Indians in 1690 who burnt the place and massacred all whom they could lay their hands on. Then during the English-French war it was the scene of the mobilizing of troops and during the Revolution it was the scene of many a stirring event. Just before the battle of Saratoga, which was one of the 15 great battles of the world, Schenectady harbored within its midst a number of regiments of patriots. With the coming of independence Schenectady began to become a commercial center. Great docks were built along the Mohawk and it became a shipping point. The boats used on the river were flat bottomed affairs and had to be poled through the riff. For many years shipping was the great industry in Schenectady but the opening of the canal and the first railroad killed it and then the city went into a peaceful sleep for many years, but was awakened by the coming of the new and gigantic force, electricity.



MOHAWK RIVER.



SCHENECTADY FROM SUMMIT AVENUE



ERIE CANAL FROM STATE STREET  
Looking toward General Electric Works.



STATE STREET FROM CANAL BRIDGE—LOOKING WEST

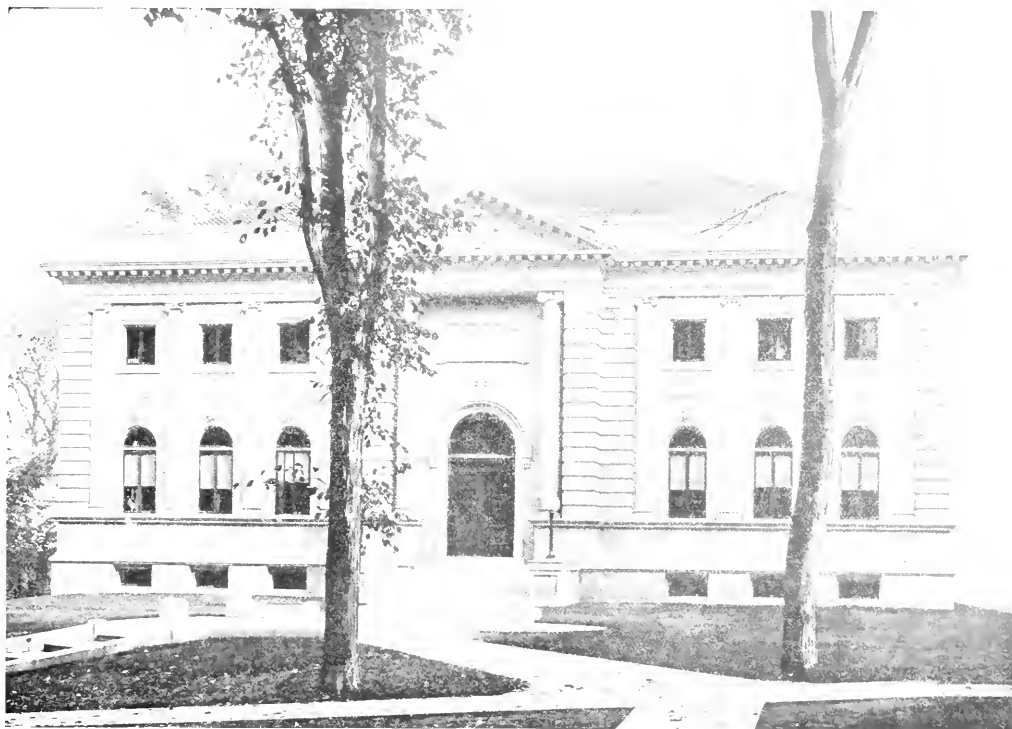




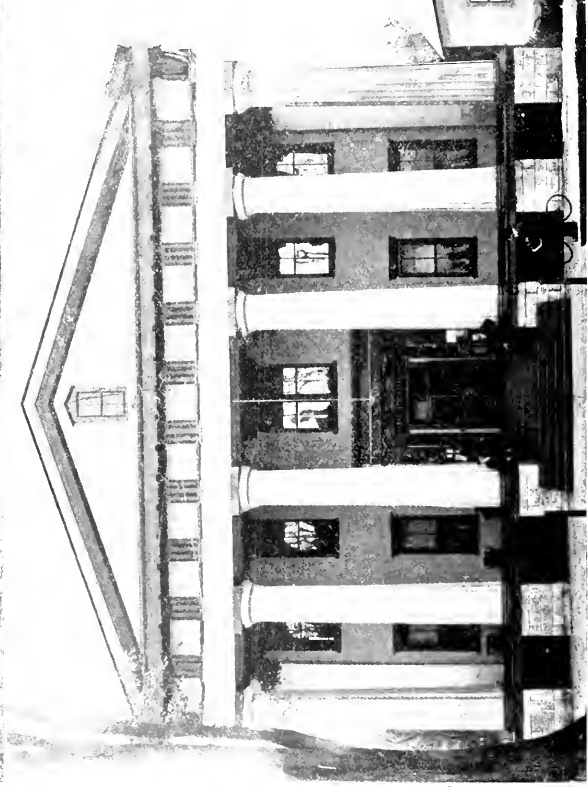
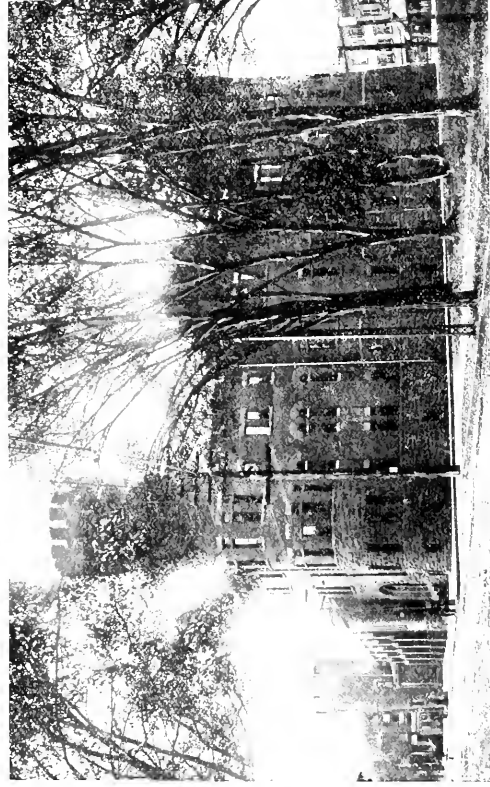
STATE STREET FROM RAILROAD CROSSING—LOOKING EAST



CITY HALL



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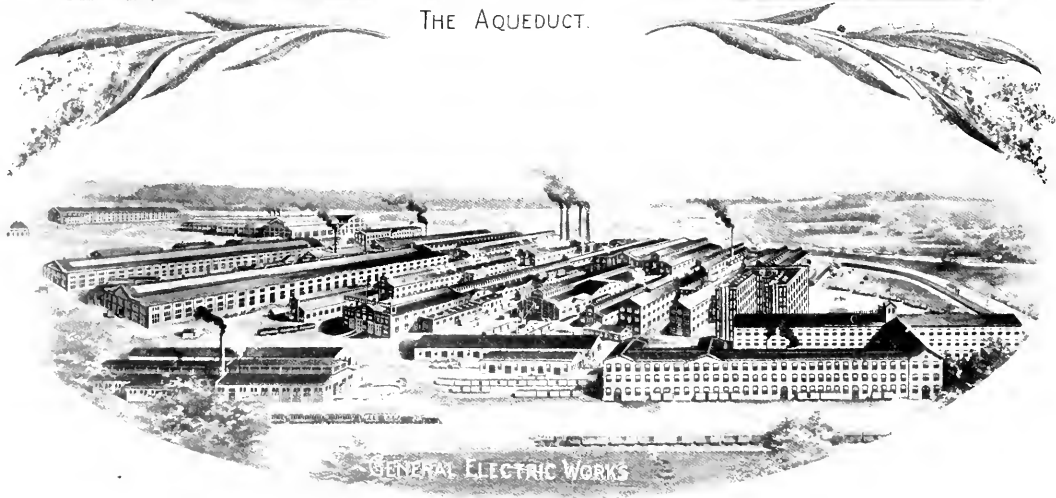
STATE ARMORY AND COURT HOUSE



FULLER STREET BARN OF SCHENECTADY RAILWAY COMPANY  
OFFICES OF AMERICAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS



THE AQUEDUCT.



TWO POINTS OF INTEREST



OLD LADIES' HOME

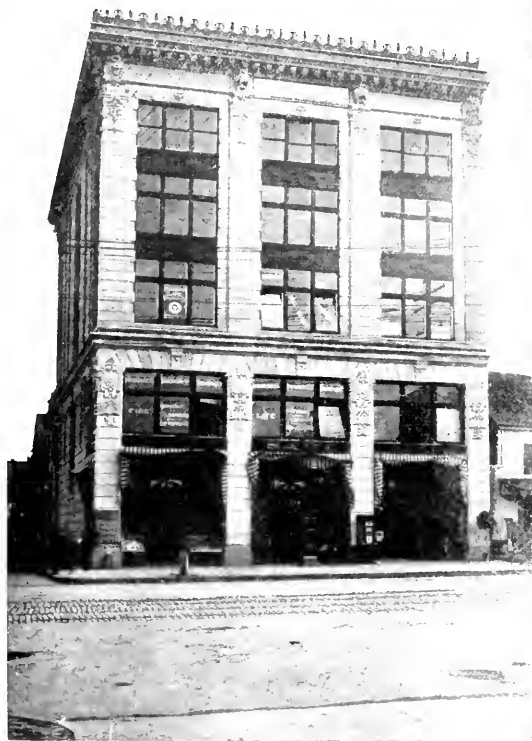


OFFICES OF GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

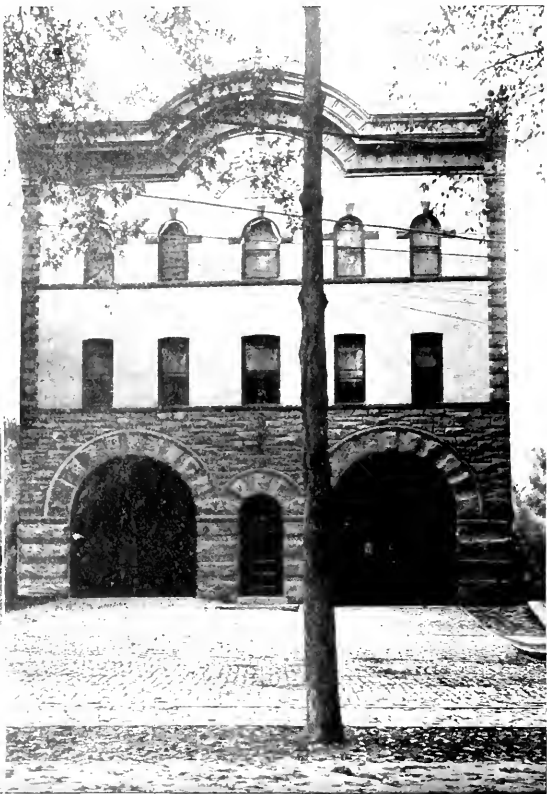




"NOON" GENERAL ELECTRIC WORKS



LORRAINE BLOCK



CENTRAL FIRE STATION



THE BUSH-SMITH COMPANY STORE



BIRDS-EYE VIEW SHOWING GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY PLANT



CORNER OF WENDALL AVENUE AND UNION STREET



ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
Erected A. D. 1759.



METHODIST CHURCH

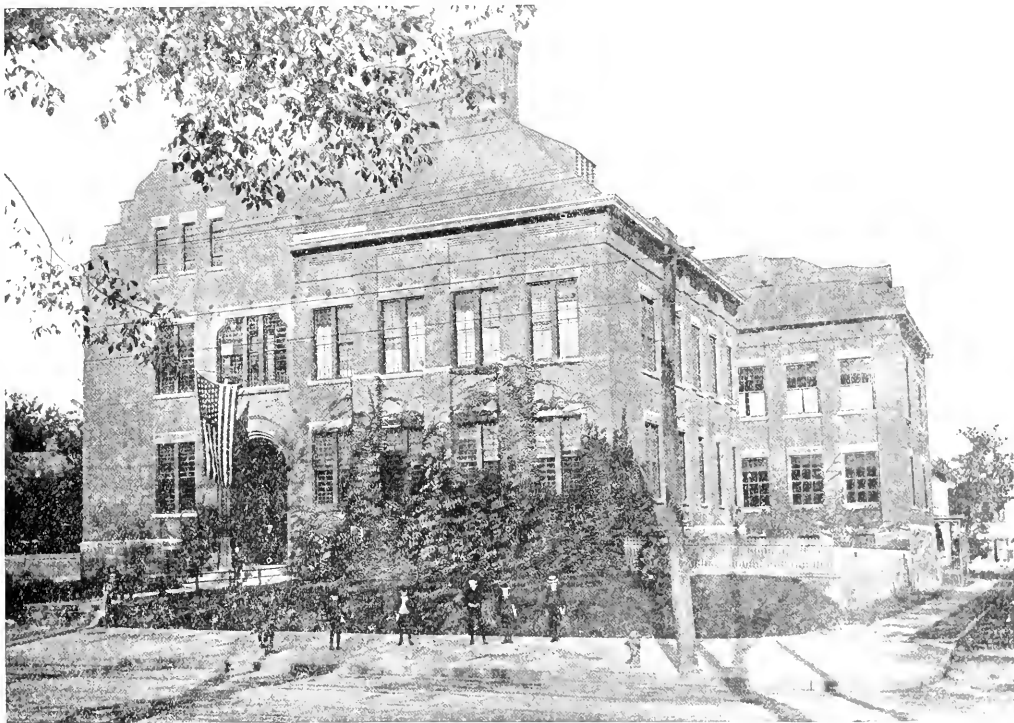


EAST AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

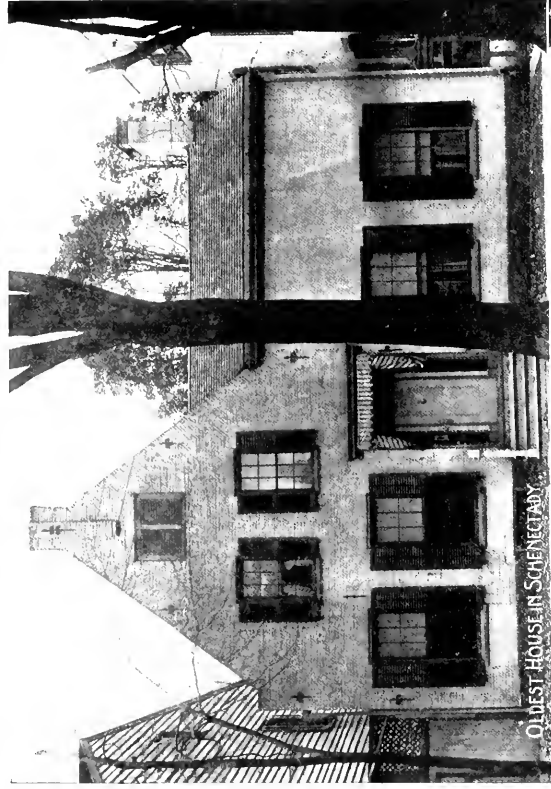


HIGH SCHOOL

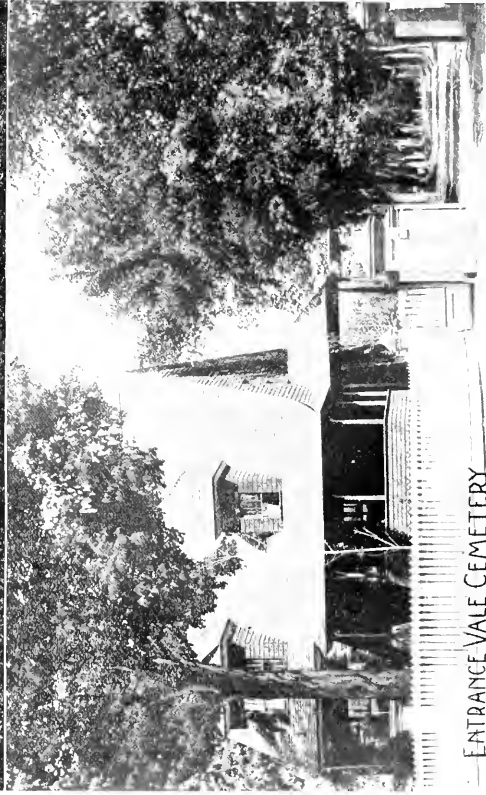
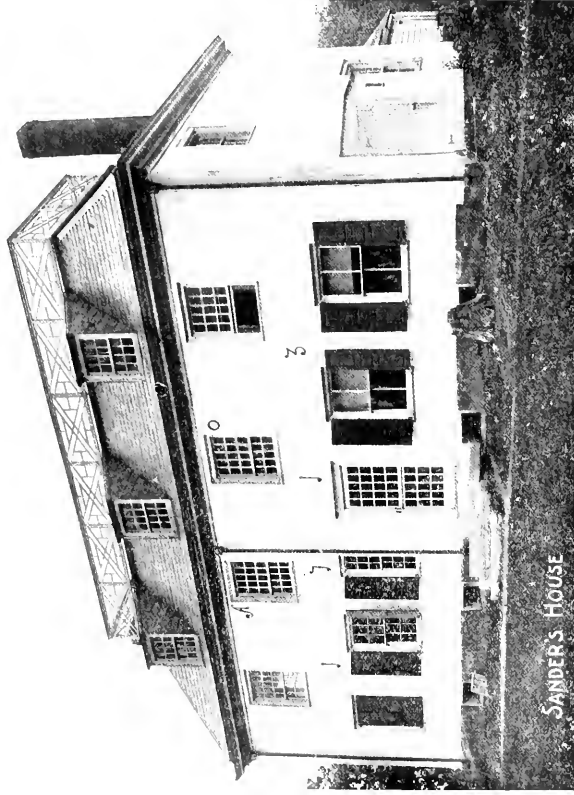




NOTT TERRACE SCHOOL



THE EIGHTEENTH AND THE TWENTIETH CENTURY



— ENTRANCE VALE CEMETERY —

SANDER'S HOUSE—BUILT 1713  
Occupied at present by descendants of original settlers.  
STATE STREET ENTRANCE TO VALE CEMETERY



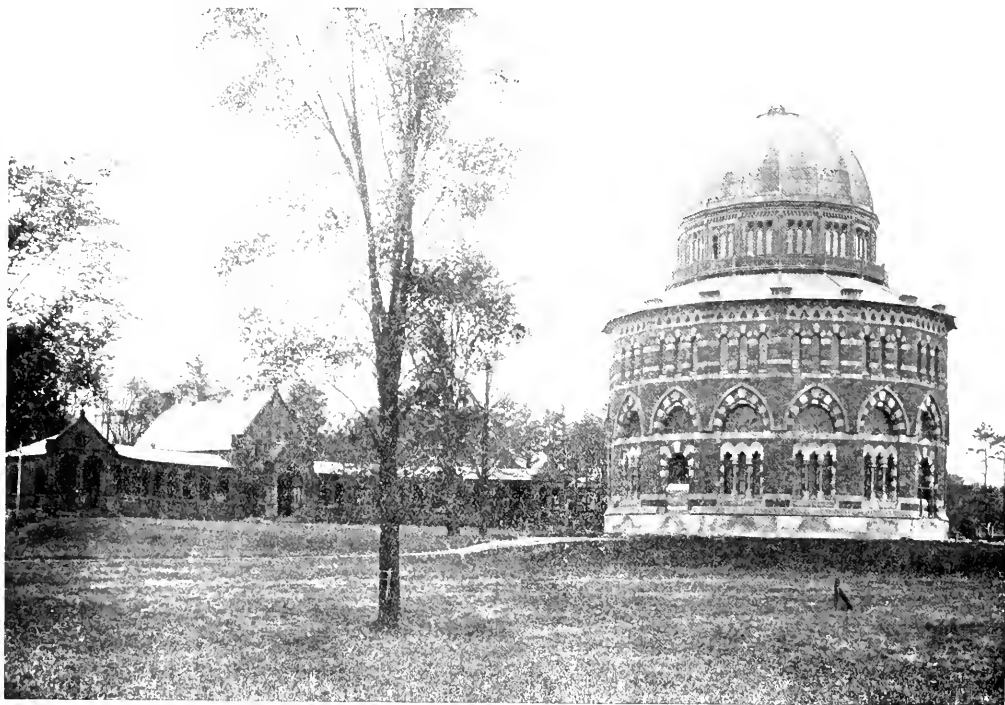
SITE OF THE NORTH GATE OF THE QUEEN'S FORT



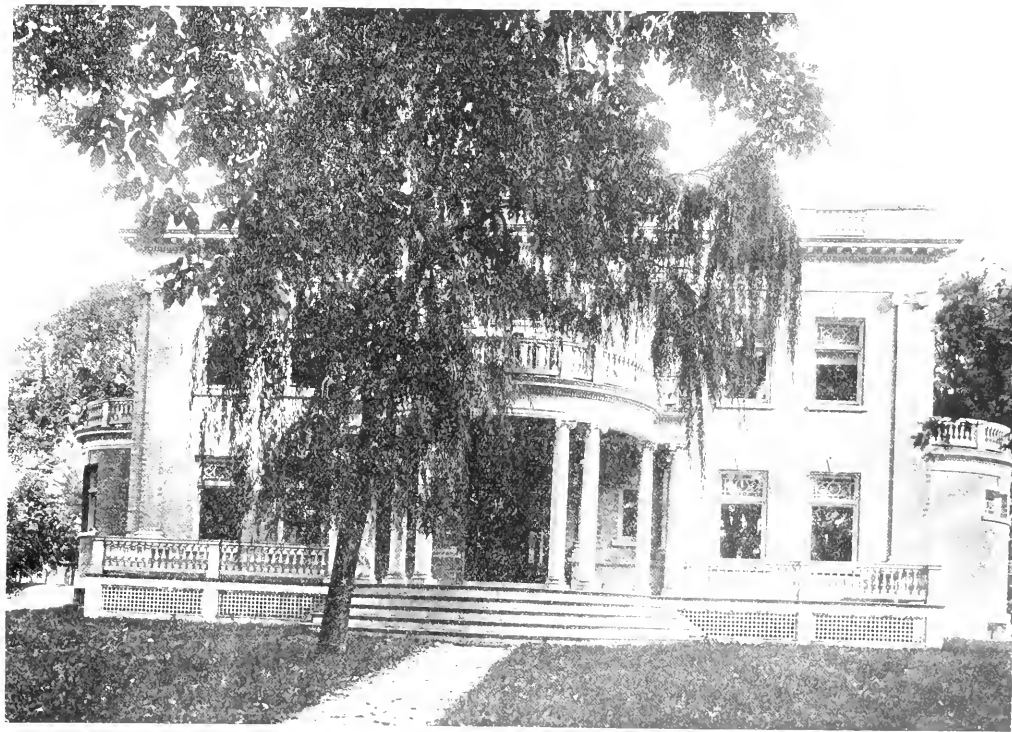
BLUE GATE.

"THE IDOL."

UNION COLLEGE—Idol presented to college by an alumnus. Sophomore yearly compel Freshmen to paint Idol green, and Freshmen retaliate by repainting it red.



NOTT MEMORIAL HALL—UNION COLLEGE



SILLIMAN HALL—Y. M. C. A. COLLEGE



PSI UPSILON CHAPTER HOUSE—UNION COLLEGE

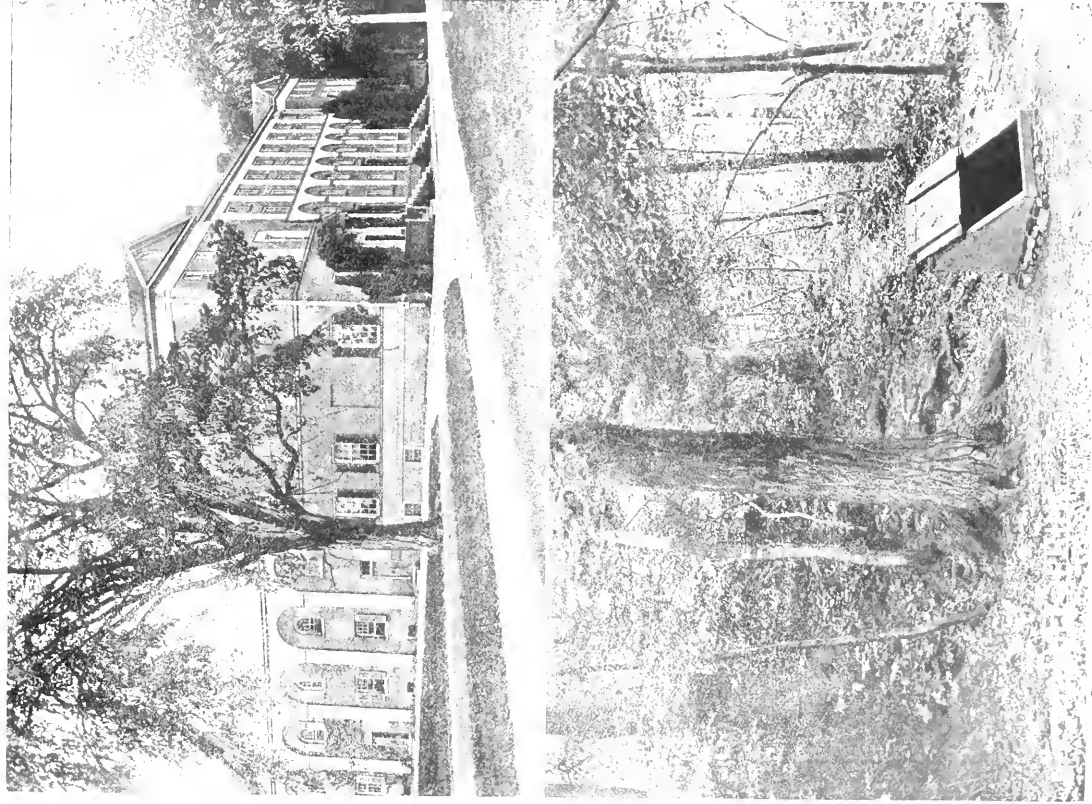




KAPPA ALPHA CHAPTER HOUSE—UNION COLLEGE



CHAPTER HOUSES—UNION COLLEGE



SOUTH COLLEGE—"Thou grand old seat of stone"  
THE SPRING—"We all drink one strength from her fount"



SCOTIA BRIDGE—TOLL GATE "OUT OF BUSINESS"



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